FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1893.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for mblication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamp for that purpose.

Squandering the People's Money. A bill has been introduced into the Legislature to compel the people of this city to spend \$1,175,000 for a new building for the free college now situated in Lexington avenue. Of this sum \$600,000 is to go for a new site and \$575,000 for the structure. The money is to be raised by bonding the city for the amount.

The expenditures for necessary improvements which the present Legislature is called upon to authorize in New York will be many millions in the aggregate. They are requisite for the execution of a plan of municipal development essential to the prosperity of the town. But their cost will be a heavy load for New York to carry.

At such a time it is proposed to tax the ety further with the expense of a new site and a new building for a college whose necessities are amply provided for in its present situation. As Commissioner Ge-BARD explained at the meeting of the Board of Education on Wednesday of last week. the institution is not crowded where it is Only about sixty out of the six hundred atudents entering it yearly go through its college course and are graduated. A great part of them never enter upon that course at all. They drop out at the end of the introductory or high school course, which lasts for a single year only. The college classes then diminish in numbers steadily until less than threescore students are left in the highest.

It is for such an institution that the bill before the Legislature loads the people of this city with a debt of \$1,175,000 at a time when necessary municipal improvements require vast expenditures, and when the Board of Education is asking for steadily increasing appropriations to meet the imperative demand for primary and grammar school instruction.

The only proper bill for the Legislature to consider is a measure abolishing the Lexington avenue college, an unpopular institution, as Commissioner Gerard very justly described it, upon which \$150,000 of the people's money is already and wastefully expended every year.

## Corruption in a Corrupt Service.

GARDNER's attempted blackmall of the keeper of a disreputable resort was a very natural consequence of the moral degradation involved in the fifthy service for which PARKHURST had hired him. Only a base fellow would engage in such employment.

GARDNER's end being pecuniary profit only, of course he exacted as high a price as he could get for his baseness. As the galary paid him by PARKHURST was small. he was all the quicker to take advantage of his peculiar opportunities for levying blackmail on his victims. It was not with him a case of yielding to temptation, but of following well-considered methods of getting money, for whose employment PARK-HURST'S service afforded an inviting field. Moreover, GARDNER was surrounded by

an atmosphere of moral contagion even In PARKHURST'S society itself. The whole concern was animated by the poisonous principle that the end justifles the means. He professed on his trial that associated with the disreputable woman he sought to blackmail, and did his best to get her intoxicated, at her own expense, in order that he might induce her to give herself away; and PARKHURST deposed in his behalf that in so doing he would have been obeying the policy and instructions of his principals. No matter how deep down in iniquity he got, he would have had the approval of his pious employers.

GARDNER also had the example of PARK-BURST himself as a model, and it is an exmple which has been celebrated as beroid by a great Christian meeting at the Cooper Institute. It is true that PARKHURST did not blackmail the keepers of vile dens. but he corrupted them with money; and the essential moral distinction between the two is not discoverable, though, of course, in the eye of the law and the opinion of society, blackmailing dissolute women is worse than hiring them to expose and betray themselves. GARDNER tried to blackmail the CLIFTON woman under the pretence that he would give her protection in her vile business. PARKHURST paid HAT-THE ADAMS and other keepers of resorts of unnatural vice in order to induce them to display their degradation to him. If it was laudable for PARKHURST to buy, GARDNER may have concluded that It was as praiseworthy, or at least no less reprehensible, for him to take money for assisting the sellers. He was in the midst of moral perversion glorified as holy zeal. As he was compelled to be corrupt in any event, he did not distinguish between different sorts of corruption. He was under a kind of training which is bound to produce blackmailing, and which PARKHURST is now

trying to extend to 1,137 other pupils. The conviction and punishment of GARD-NER will serve to clear the moral atmosphere. They will tend to dissipate the moral fog with which PARKHURST has enveloped the consciences of so many good people, inducing them to justify the practice of vice as a means of attacking vice. The imprisonment of GARDNER as an attempted blackmailer is a natural fruit of the methods adopted by PARKHURST. He would not have gone into PARKHURST's disreputable service except for the opportunities of making money by blackmailing which it afforded. He would not have been adapted to it if he had not been a base and vile fellow. Only the corrupt can be engaged in a corrupt service.

# The News from Berlin.

If recent telegrams can be trusted, a remarkable change has taken place in the relations of the St. Petersburg and Berlin Governments. Taken by itself the visit of the Czarawitz to WILLIAM II. was an incident hard to reconcile with the reported existence of a treaty of alliance between France and Russia. But if it be true, as it is alleged by a semi-official newspaper, that the Czarawitz denied that any such treaty had been made, the significance of the visit is singularly enhanced. We are also told that the German Emperor has been invited to meet the Czar at Warsaw in the course of the coming spring, and that meanwhile the concentration of Russian troops upon the frontier of Poland has been stopped, and that Gen. GOURKO has been summoned to St. Petersburg, apparently for the purpose of receiving fresh instructions upon the subject. It is evident that Prince BISMABCK believes these reports and puts the most favorable construction on them, for his organ, the Hamburger Nachrichten, expresses the first time approval of the diplomatic chievements of Chancellor Caprivi. If we were asked to name the paramount

interest of mankind in these closing years of the nineteenth century, we should say it was the maintenance of the peace of Europe. We say this in view of the stupendous armies resulting from the conscription sys-tem and unparalleled in history—armies whose collision would convert a continent into a shambles, and involve an amount of economical and social shipwreck by the side of which even the ruin caused by the Thirty Years' War would seem insignificant. There was just one way in which such a collision could be averted, and that was to reestablish the friendly ties which connected the courts of Berlin and St. Petersburg during the reign of WILLIAM L. and so long, in fact, as BISMAROK Was Chancellor. The one telling count in the arraignment of Gen. Von Caprivi incessantly pressed by BISMARCK was the fact that since the latter's dismissal from office the relations of Germany and Russia had

undergone a sinister change. If this be a fact no longer; if it be true that the traditional friendship of the HOHENZOLLERNS and the ROMANOFFS is about to be revived; then the war cloud which of late has darkened Europe will be dissipated, and the friends of peace and Industry and commerce may take heart and breathe again. The Triple Alliance threatened a catastrophe, because it provoked a counter combination on the part of France and Russia. On the other hand, tranquillity was assured by the Drei Kalser Bund, or League of the Three Emperors; for what powers could venture to dispute a fint launched simultaneously from Berlin. Vienna, and St. Petersburg? By the dissolution of that league Germany and Austria have gained nothing but seriously increased military and fiscal burdens, and the lastnamed power has missed the opportunity of sharing in a pacific division of the Balkan peninsula. There is scarcely any hope of expelling the Turk from Europe and effecting a peaceful distribution of the Ottoman assets except by a coalition of the three Emperors. The time is propitious for extinguishing that firebrand, the Eastern question, for England will never strike a blow to keep the Sultan in Constantinople so long as she is permitted to retain pos-

session of Egypt. If Chancellor Caprivi is in a way to restore the historical friendship of Russia and of Germany, he has rendered a tremendous service to his country, and it matters little whether he carries his new Army bill through the Reichstag.

### More Trouble in France.

It is evident that public confidence in the RIBOT Cabinet has received a severe shock from the unexpected course taken by the Chamber of Indictments, a body notoriously susceptible to political influence. This Chamber has absolved several of the accused persons, including conspicuously ex-Minister Rouvier, against whom true bills were found by M. FRANQUEVILLE, the examining magistrate. This is a most unusual proceeding, for when a juge d'instruction has declared that a prima facle case has been made out against a prisoner. the latter has no chance, as a rule, of escaping a trial in the Assize Court. What | the amount carried by the pending measure makes the dismissal of the indictment against ROUVIER seem peculiarly arbitrary and scandalous is the fact that he admitted receiving from REINACH money which, as he said, he had applied to the secret service of the Government. No wonder that observers who recall this fact are forced, by his surprising escape from punishment, to remember also his defiant assertion that he would not be made a scapegoat by his former colleagues, and that if he fell others should fall with him.

If it be true that ROUVIER's escape is due

to political influence-and to what else, in view of his confession, can we attribute it ?- the members of the RIBOT Cabinet have exposed themselves to the gravest suspicions, and have made it indispensable that an entirely new set of men shall as sume control of the Government. Happily for the republic, there is no lack of such, even in the present deeply tainted Chamber of Deputies, as was made clear in Wednes day's debate, when GODEFROY CAVAIGNAC came forward and vehemently repelled the notion that the sins of individuals could discredit the political framework of the country. But yesterday Frenchmen of all parties, monarchists, imperialists, and republicans, regretted that France had no personality adequate to the situation. To-day she seems to have found one, and he is on the republican side; indeed, his name is inseparably associated with republican traditions. Seldom have the greatest statesmen gained such a parliamentary triumph as was achieved on Wednesday by a man less than forty, who had never held a Cabinet office, and who was almost unknown. CAVAIGNAC virtually slapped the face of the Minister of Justice: he compelled the Premier to same tion the castigation administered to a colleague, and he then caused the Chamber to adopt a motion embodying his views by a nearly unanimous vote. One can understand that in presence of such a victory people inside the Chamber and outside of it felt that the man had arrived at last, and that neither Bourbonists nor Bonapartists would profit by his arrival.

To grasp the full significance of the remarkable scene on Wednesday in the Chamber of Deputies It is necessary to compare certain words uttered by previous speakers with a passage in Cavaignac's speech. A Boulangist Deputy, M. Goussor, had begun the debate by declaring that, since ROUVIER had acknowledged receiving money from the Panama Company, it was the plain duty of the Government to see that he suffered the penalty of his act. The article of the Constitution concerning the responsibility of Ministers should be, he said, applied without delay. In other words, if one indictment against ROUVIER failed on technical grounds, a new prosecution should be begun. To this M. Bourgeois, Minister of Justice, replied in a defiant spirit, attributable, doubtless, to the recent votes of confidence. The Government, he said, had done all it intended to do, and would abide by the result. This, of course, is just what a Minister would say, who for his own sake was determined to shield ROUVIER from punishment. Then it was that CAVAL-GNAC mounted the tribune and declared that, while the faults of individuals could not fairly be made weapons against the established institutions of France, yet "peculiar things had happened in connection with individual cases, and still awaited, after inexplicable delay, a much-desired explanation." This was the first blow aimed at Bourgeois; the second came at

the end of the speech, after flagellation had been administered to DE FREY-CINET and CLEMENCEAU. "Why," asked CAVAIGNAC, "did the people of France declare themselves in favor of a republic? Because they saw in the republic that form of government which was a guarantee of even-handed justice and unflinching duty. Never let it be said that they made a mistake." Thereupon he proposed a motion to the effect that the Chamber was deter-

administrative practices as he had stigmatized. So tremendous was the enthusiasm elicited by CAVAIGNAO's speech that Premier Ribor was constrained to accept the motion, although his colleague, Boungeois, cowered beside him like a whipped hound.

We have never doubted that the French republic would survive the Panama scandal, but we have also recognized that corruption had eaten so far into the core of the present Chamber of Deputies that a firm hand and a sharp knife would be needed to excise the cancer. It looks as if both hand and knife would be forthcoming.

## Bulld Up the Flect!

The annual Navy Supply bill, as agreed upon by the House committee, is not only \$4,000,000 below Secretary TRACY's moderate estimates, but nearly \$3,000,000 less than the appropriations of last year. Those, in turn, were \$8,600,000 smaller than for the twelvementh preceding, so that in place of the \$32,146,146 of two years ago, we have a

bill of \$20,607,000 to-day. The routine features of this measure call for no special comment. Its great shortcoming, which robs it of general interest, is the failure to authorize any new ships, except one gunboat. Since the House committee is well known to be heartily in favor of building up the navy. this feeble contribution to the work, barely avoiding the odium of checking it outright, can only be accounted for by the supposed demands of retrenchment. But the subject for frugality is not well chosen; and the recent devotion of nearly \$16,000,000 to continuing contract work on rivers and harbors also makes a strange contrast with the \$6,150,000 for carrying along work on vessels hitherto authorized.

The need of steadily building up the navy was set forth most effectively by the House committee itself in a report made at the last session. Proposing to continue the work of construction "until we shall have, say, ten 'or twelve battle ships," it suggested at that time that "we might well authorize all these battle ships in four years." There were then but three of these ten or twelve first-class fighting ships under construction, and there are now only four, so that the House committee was certainly not hurrying its own four years' programme when it further declared that "it should be the settled policy of Congress to authorize the construction of one or more new vessels at each regular session, until we shall have provided a considerably larger number of fighting ships." And yet already a regular session has come in which the annual battle ship is omitted, and the only substitute is a small light-draught river eraft, of which Secretary Tracy had asked not one, but four, and these as additions to the great armored fighting vessels rather

than as substitutes for them. It is true that no appropriation was made at the last session for the big battle ship Iowa, then authorized, and hence its first instalment presumably falls upon the present bill, and may be regarded, in one sense, as this session's contribution to new construction. That view could be accepted were more nearly equal to last year's; and this ground for not authorizing a new battle ship would then have more force. But with nearly three millions less in the pending bill, such a plea could hardly be well founded. Besides, it would be easy, in providing funds for the Iowa now, to repeat the expedient of the last session and authorize a new battle ship, while leaving the first payment on it to the next Congress. But under the present plan the new Secretary of the Navy will find nothing during the coming year for him to design or contract for, except a small gunboat.

The House Naval Committee, in its former report, quoted in support of its earnest argument for more battle ships, these words from a message of President Jackson:

"The wide seas which separate us from other Gov ernments must of necessity be the theatre on which an enemy will aim to assail us; and unless we are pre pared to meet him on this element, we cannot be said to possess the power requisite to repel or prevent aggressions. We cannot, therefore, watch with too much attention this arm of our defence, or cherish with too much care the means by which it can possess the necessary efficiency and extension."

Secretary TRACY, recently noting that in the construction both of ships and guns. "the United States has emerged from its condition of helplessness at sea, and by the employment of its own resources has distanced its more experienced competitors." nevertheless warned Congress that the country was still far from having an adequate navy. "The aggressive policy of foreign nations," he said, "has continued, and this country, whether it will or not, will soon be forced into a position where it cannot disregard measures which form a standing menace to its prosperity and security." The rebuilding of the navy, he declared, should not now be suffered to languish, especially as only two vessels will remain on the stocks, and the shipyards, with their trained forces, will be waiting for work.

The Senate has before it a bill to authorize several new armored ships and ten gunboats. That goes as far to one extreme as the House bill does to the other; but a medium course may result. The Senate, last year, added to the too meagre House bill a battle ship, and this was accepted after conference. Perhaps no members were more pleased with that result than the House Naval Committee; and perhaps none would be better pleased than they to find their present bill authorizing something more than its solitary little gunboat be fore it becomes a law.

## A Question of Clothing.

On the northern shores of Lake Nyassa ive the Wakonde, described by all travellers as one of the finest tribes of Central Africa. Lieut, NIENSTAEDT, a German traveller, has called attention to one remarkable result of the proximity of white men, who have established missionary stations in that region.

The Wakonde have thriven by the arts of peace, and hardly any part of savage Africa can show so many flourishing plantations as their country. They manifest their primitive simplicity in many ways, and in none more than by their attire, which is chiefly conspicuous for its absence; for the Wakonde are among the least clad of African peoples. A girdle of brass or copper wire suffices for the men, while a very small bit of braided leather adorned with beads is full dress for the ladies of the tribe.

Until the whites came among them their utter lack of clothing suggested to this primitive people not the slightest thought of indecorum. Clothing is not an essential of comfort among them, and no sense of shame or modesty suggested its use. The Wakonde were simply animals in their innocence and simplicity.

The whites, however, have been trying to instil into their minds an idea that never occurred to them before, that it is immedest to be unclothed. The well-meaning teachers have not succeeded in converting the natives to their ideas of dress reform, but the Wakonde have shown themselves mined to prevent the recurrence of such willing to make some concessions to the

prejudices of the newcomers. Whenever they are aware that a white man is approaching, men and women alike disappear in the plantations, where they pluck a few banana leaves and stick them in their girdles. Having thus made their tollet they present themselves to their visitors in the calm confidence that, arrayed in their leaves, they will not offend the inscrutable sense of propriety of the missionaries, who had prescribed cotton cloths, but had been compelled to compromise on the foliage of

the banana plant. These missionaries seem entirely to overlook the fact that dress is really nothing but a matter of custom; that millions of people who think the uncovered faces of our women on the street are shameful, have habits of attire that do not accord with our notions of propriety; and that instilling into the minds of savages ideas of indecorum where none whatever had existed, may not be, after all, the best way to improve and benefit their immortal souls.

### The Outrage Cannot be Justified.

The New York Recorder's remarks in condemnation of the plans to add to the Natural History Museum building in Manhattan square, proposed by the trustees of the society, will be found in another column. In thus considering the affair of the Natural History Museum, our contemporary helps largely also in protecting the official management of municipal affairs from subordination to private influences that have no

proper place in their control. The plan under contemplation in its inception and its meaning is beyond justification. It never should be inflicted on the city in material shape. It should be withdrawn and changed.

### BROWN-Stquamp fatled -- fourier-Journal.

This may be true in Kentucky, but elsewhere it is not so. The elixir of youth is constantly in demand in France, and is made and sold by various chemists. The best is supplied by the discoverer himself, and only a month ago the Figure attacked the Government for permitting him to manufacture it for sale in his professional laboratory in the College of France.

As befits the gallant and goodly man he is, the Hon. GEORGE ZERUBABEL ERWIN, the Lily of Potsdam, says that "the United States should give the deposed Queen, who, I understand, is a very beautiful woman, a pension," O, subtle power of beauty! Gen. Von Schwanz-BROP, the Governor of Alsace, in conducting Senator Enwix to the French frontier during the Potsdam statesman's European trip in August, 1891, said: "My dear sir, you will understand of course that there is nothing personal in begging you to leave, but the fact is that the cathedral people complain that they can't start the clock."

The Northwest is taking its annual dose of blizzard and snow in order to prepare itself for the tardy joys of spring. Without a large erop of frozen ears that favored region might be unequal to hymning and humping itself as

The City Improvement Society is an association of gentlemen whose declared purpose is to promote the good government of this town, by calling attention to blemishes and defects in the municipal administration The purpose of the society is laudable, but more valuable results might reward the righteous activity of the members if they were more sagaciously directed. The follow ing correspondence is published by our profoundly neutral, and sometimes interesting. contemporary, the City Record:

"CITY IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY, 126 EAST TWENTY-THIRD STREET, NEW YORK, Jan. 16, 1803,

"Hos. Thomas F. Gilmor, Mayor, City Hall.
"Draw Size: We have the honor to present to you the following suggestions in regard to the better lighting "That Columbus avenue, as well as the district south of Washington square for several blocks, and the tene-ment district east and west of the Bowery be lighted by electricity. We furthermore beg to press upon your

attention the insufficient light generally furnished by gas companies to the city in the street lamps. "We trust you will have these important matters duly considered at the next meeting of the Gas Com

mission. Very truly, "City Improvement Society.

"J. Coluxs Puneray, Secretary." liarity of municipal reformers. improvers, perfectors, and regenerators that they invariably part their names in the middle. It is the trade mark of the municipal reformer. They keep their first full names, so to speak, out of the politics; why, no one has ver been able to discover.

The Gas Commission consists of the Mayor. the Comptroller, and the Commissioner of Public Works. In answer to the communica-tion of Mr. J. Collins Pumpelly, the Secretary of this Commission-his name is McCornick. and he is not the first municipal officer bearing that illustrious family designation-sent his response as follows:

"1. South Fifth avenue and Greene street, south of Washington square, are now under contract to be lighted by electric lamps, but the other locations menioned in the communication of the society do not conain subways for electric lighting .

"2. The Mayor will not consent to the erection of any additional overhead wires in the city south of Harlem

"3. In the absence of subways, and without the use of overhead wires, electricity cannot be utilized for pur-poses of illumination in the territory referred to by Mr. J. Collins Pewelly."

Such is the present condition of the correspondence between City Functionary McCon-MICK and Reformer PUMPELLY. It is no more than fair to say that so far McConmics appears to have the better of the argument. The City Improvement Society must try again, and may Pumpelly and his associate reformers have better luck next time.

The sentences on the Panama convicts in Paris do not seem too severe except in the case of the elder DE LESSEEL He is not only 88 years of age, but has lost his mind, and is actually no better than an idiot. For this reason, we presume, that in his case the sentence will not be executed; but the others will doubtless have to serve out their time.

It would be in vain to try to guess what effect will be produced upon the minds of the people who listen to every sermon in the series of sermons to be preached on successive Sundays in a Harlem church this month and next. The pastor of the church has made an arrangement by which representative clergymen of the various Protestant denominations shall, one after the other, present the claims of the denominations to which they respectively belong. The theme of the Presbyterian clergyman is to be "Why I Am a Pres-byterian;" that of the Methodist clergy-man, "Why I Am a Methodist:" that of the Baptist, "Why I Am a Baptist;" that of the Congregationalist, "Why I Am a Congregationalist." and other clergymen of yet other denominations are to tell why they belong thereto. It is certainly a remarkable programme. It has been pre-pared by the Rev. Dr. Campbell of the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, who is desirous that the arguments of the ablest defenders of each and every denomination of Protestantism shall be submitted to his people. He is not in the least afraid of the result. He himself is a steadfast, confirmed, established, double-riveted, and intransmutable Baptist, and it is almost inconceivable that his mind should be any way unsettled by the sermons of the Rev. Dr. Vingis, or the Rev. Dr. Ramsay or the Rev. Dr. UPHAM, or the Rev. Dr. TYLER, or any of the other clergymen who are to reach in the course. But how are the ordinary people in the pews likely to be influenced

minds of many of them may be thrown into confusion, and that the faith of some of them may be disturbed? The risk must be taken

anyhow. Another programme not less attractive, and even more controversial in character, might be got up through a slight change in the titles of the lectures. For example, Dr. UPRAM. Methodist, "Why I Am Not a Baptist," or Dr. Ramsay, Presbyterian, "Why I Am Not a Congregationalist." These titles of negation would give better opportunity for assault than the titles of affirmation. But let things stand while the debate goes on. Sometimes truth is advanced by debate.

What is this yarn about a scarcity of coal in Chicago? What are these tales of cloud-shaving piles in Cook county forsaken by their occupants because there is nothing to feed fire with: of hotels where the huddling guests are struggling to keep from freezing to death by blowing on their fingers or grasping the nu-merous fingers of whiskey? How can Chicago be cold? Why doesn't she open the trap door? It is generally supposed that there is plenty of fire underneath the town. Warm up, Chicago! There is always room enough at the bottom.

A Milwaukce brewery has bought the right to sell beer at the Chicago show. Some arithmetical genius estimates that 50,000 barrels will be swigged. However that may be, no sane visitor will drink the sewerated water which trickles muddily in the Bacillarium of the West. A cup of cold pizun is more healthful than that.

The death of Mr. JOHN TERRY of Rector street from a malady brought on by a slight cut in the face which he got while being shaved ought to be an admonishment to bar-bers. The wound inflicted by the razor in the barber's hand was very slight, but it was the means of admitting into Mr. Tenny's system some baneful substance, which may have been In the lather, or on brush, sponge, or towel, or on the barber's hand. The result was blood poisoning, from which he died in a week after he had been cut.

It is dangerous to get shaved by an inexperf. clumsy-handed, negligent, or groggy barber. It is dangerous to get shaved in any barber's shop in which the lather is not perfeetly pure, or in which any of the tonsorial appliances are unclean. The man who would guard against danger ought to have a lather mug and brush for himself, ought not to let his face be touched by a sponge that is in general use, and ought not to patronize a barber who will use the same towel for different customers. We whisper these words here, not as knowledge for men of circumspection, but as a warfing to negligent men, who throw away dull care when they get into a barber's chair. We assure them that there are doctors who can tell of the perils that may be encountered under the razoc.

Mr. CHARLES MITCHELL, an English colebrity widely known for the sweetness of his language, the mildness of his temper, and many other endearing young charms, is on his way to this country, and it is said that he means to make it his home. The coming of this eminent immigrant will be made as pleasant as he deserves, and, as there is no law to prevent it, he will be allowed to land. But what has he got against the United States?

## THE MORNING STAR

### Something More in Connection with the Mysterious Lost Ship.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Noticing the interesting suggestions in your issue of Wednesday, among which is one to the effect that the remains of the lost ship are those of the Morning Star, "an ordnance sloop," which, lying off "the Coffee House in the Fast River," blew up in August, 1778, I beg to say that this is improbable. The Coffee House, in 1778 called "the Old

Coffee House," was the Merchants' Coffee House, which stood at the southeast corner of Wall and Water streets, on the site later occupied by the Journal of Commerce. There are notices of the Merchants' Coffee House as early as 1744, and during the wat the loyalist members of the Chamber of Commerce held their meetings there. When first erected this part of Water street, which pointed northward on the triangle known as Hanover square, was called Queen street, or "The Strand." The property next westward on the same line of sireet was deeded by the Mayor and corporation to one Carmer at a much earlier period on condition of the erection of a "wharf or street thirty feet long" probably what is now termed a bulkhead. The high-water mark of the lot on which the Coffee House stood was 101 feet and some inches below the line of the street.

This coffee house was called the "Old Coffee House," to distinguish it from the coffee house built not long loore the war on the opposite cross angle of Wall and Water streets, where the Tontine Coffee House was erected. The slip at this point was called "The Coffee House Ship," and there was a bridge called "The Coffee House Ship," and there was a bridge called "The Coffee House Bridge, whore vendues or auctions were held. The wharf or pier at the foot of Wall Street was known as Murray's wharf, and it was here that Washington landed in 1789.

Your correspondent, Mr. Lincoln, in his interesting contents. called Queen street, or "The Strand," The

wharf, and it was here that Washington landed in 1789.

Your correspondent, Mr. Lincoln, in his interesting communication, is correct in saying that there was a coffee house at the function of Broad and Dock thow Pearl' streets. This, a building set up on arches at that point about 1750 (I write from memory), was called the "Boyai Exchange," and a coffee house existed here for a short period, but it was of small resort and nover appears in the notices of the day as the coffee House. Its proprietor had before kept the Gent'eman's toffee House, which stool on the east side of Frond street, and appears in the history of the Stamp act troubles under the sign of the King's Arms.

Later I shall ended yor to take some part in this curious investigation.

John Austin Stevens.

## Art Books in the Mercantile Library. It was something of a revelation on Wednesday when Mr. W. T. Peoples, librarian of the Mercantile Labrary, with a bunch of fragrant violets in his conf-lapel, welcomed the guests of the library to an exhibition of the art and illustrated books in the collection. The two Hears at the top of the fall building were throughd with visitors, and the great illustrated and art books of the illustrated with visitors, and the great illustrated and art books of the illustraty were spread out on tables for the more convenient inspection of the guests.

art stores of the Mercantile Library are inexpectedly

abundant and complete, and in them are some rare books, as well as those of latest publication. The catalogue contains illustrated backs on costumes landscape, design, decoration, ornament, and architec-ture, as well as miscellaneous illustrated works. Under this last head me such well-known works as Boydell's Shukespears, and Barnard's sactches from Thackeray and luckens. There are works on the lidustrial arts, military arts, museums, picture galleries, North American Indians, Japan, painting, engraying, and aculp-

ture, rodogy, and portraiture. Inder these headings are to be found some of the most interesting of the old books of plates, many of them rare, more of them useful to the student and many more simply beautiful as to the subjects of the plates and very wonderful as to the manner of the

# Eugene Field's Tribute to Phocien Howard.

Line the Chinton News Konni We very de pty fegral the death of our old friend a good many years we have thought much more of the old gentleman than we care i a tell. If from time to time we have railed and jokes to tell. If from time to time we have railed and joked at his expense, it was because we know his worth and thought much of him personally—for, be it understood, we never frived with those whom we do not like. Phocion understood it all. Whenever he came to Chicago he climbed the stairs to see us and we were always giad to see his ruddy face and to hear his big, cheery voice. Phocion did not do much fooling bimself, and perhaps that is why he did not dislike our badinage Photon Howard was one of the old achool-one of the few pioness left here for a long time in the West. He was utterly improvedent, utterly irresponsible, ut-terly impossible. Once he was more or less intemperate, but he stopped that folly some time ago. Up to the last he was generous and self-sacrificing to the degree of fault, his sympathics were easily chilated and his enthusiasm and loyalty never failered diffentimes betrayed and imposed upon and wronged be never host confidence in his fellow men; his head may have failed him in emergencies, but Photonis heart was always ready with renervois, grucious, noble impulses. So we think of the best manyer lenderly as we speak that the him of the property as we speak that the him of the property as we should be the him of the property as we should be the perfect of the him of the perfect of those deeper feeting on the first which perfect his world of ours in very heautiful, and life here is weet; for in this beautiful world buttantly, with its tender sympathies and tender offices, glorides it all our old friend Photon loved this world of ours and he loved his fellow men; and it is this love, perchance, that qualifies butmantly for what is to come in the hereafter. enthusiasm and loyalty never faitered Oftentine by the arguments addressed to them by the successive preachers of the disagreeing de-nominations? Is it not possible that the

DIAMOND REEF LIGHT.

Another Attempt to be Made to Erect a Lighthouse on This Dangerous Shoal.

Washington, Feb. D.-The Treasury De-

partment is about to make another attempt to place a lighthouse on Diamond Shoal, at the extreme end of Hatteras, and the most dreaded point to marines of any on the Amercan coast. On account of the drifting sands and its great distance at sea, all efforts made before to erect a lighthouse at this point proved disastrous. Congress, three years ago, appropriated \$200,000 toward the establishment of a light there, the cost not to exceed \$500,000. Bids were advertised and the contract was awarded to Anderson & Barr of Jersey City, at their bid of \$480,000. After some months spent in the construction at Norfolk. Va., of a huge cofferdam, which was nothing more than a large cylinder made of boiler plate, with a diameter of about forty feet, it was floated to Diamond Shoal, and an attempt made to drive it down into the sand, after which the water was to be numbed out by beavy engines and the space filled in with masonry for the foundation of the structure. Some days were spent waiting for good weather to make the attempt, and when the work of getting the huge cylinder in position was accomplished a northeaster came along and knocked it all to pieces. As the contractors had sustained a loss of over \$50,000 in constructing it, they did not care to run further risks, and so threw up their contract. Sings then no further attempt has been made

The Lighthouse Board, however, bolleves that the work can be done, and is at work drawing up plans, which will not differ materially from those adopted before. It exdrawing up plans, which will not differ materially from those adopted before. It expects to have them ready in a month, and will then call for bids from contractors who are willing to undertake the work. The Government fost nothing by the failure of the Jersey City firm, and the money for the light is still available. The site all around the structure is to be protected by rip-rap packing, composed of granife blocks weighing not less than two tons aspaces. The first floor of the structure is to be a structure as the structure of the structure is to be at least thirty feet above high-water mark. It is to be accessible from the water by a strong iron ladder, and must be large enough for the storage of several tons of coal, cords of wood, and a large quantity of water. A number of hielboats are to be provided, and hoisting apparatus, canable of taking from the deck of a versel a weight of two tons, at a distance of twenty feet from the base of the structure. On the second floor are to be the log-signal apparatus, boiler room, and steam pump, and on the floor above will be rooms for oil and sait water tanks. The fourth and lifth stories will be for the keepers, the sixth for the kichen, and the seventh for a sitting room. On top of all be placed the big lens, which should reflect a light that may be seen twenty miles distant.

The contractor who undertakes to put a lighthouse on this sandbar will have to take a good many risks, and if he succeeds in getting the structure up he will probably have to maintain the light at his own expense for a year to show the safety of the tower. If the light is established, it will be the first of its kind ever placed in the sea on such an exposed and dangerous point.

## THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

Additional Protest Against Architectural Outrage in Manhattan Square, Thom the New York Frencher.

Outrage in Manintum Square.

The taxpayers of New York have a right to know why one of their costly subdic buildings should be disfigured and converted into an architectural monstrosity. That is what the trustees of the Museum of Natural fistory have decided to do by accepting the idiotte plans for the new lecture halt, which they are now trying to crowd through in such haste as to fairly create distrust of the considerations moving them to this extraordinary course.

The Park Commissioners, for equally unnecountable reasons, have a squiesced in this strange proceeding of the museum trustees, and appear to have addicated their proper functions in regard to Maninatan square, which is to be the scene of the proposed architectural monstresity. Why have they not stood firmly in their proper places as the guardians of the public squares of the city and insisted upon the carrying out of the original plan of the nuscum bailding as adopted in 1872, when Mr. Glunsled, the architect of central Park, was President of the Board?

From the time the building was originally designed to the present day it has always been the purpose of the city that a hollow square should cover the entire park, with a cruciform division in the centre. One of the arms of the interior cross was fully attesting this architectural purpose. New, suddenly, without public discussion, without consultation with the Park Commissioners, and entirely ginoring Mr. Vaux, the architectural lark who first made this plan, and who was properly consulted at every previous stage of its construction and extension, the whole plan of the building was to have been an architectural ornament of the city, and on which a large amount of public money has been expended, is irreparably dissignared and unterly spoiled. The Park Compissioners sure y have come power in the premises or do they propose to summit to being permanently supersecied by the trustees of the museum trustees is carried out, a building which was to have been an architectural ornament of public money has b

The Democratic Masses of New York, From the Wine and Spirit Garette.

THE SER voices the sentiment of the Democratic casses more correctly p obably than any other paper published in his city.

### Foreign Notes of Real Interest, Residents of the Rue Panama, in Paris, a street which

was thus named a few years ago when the canal project was popular and promising, are petitioning for There is prospect of early legislation in the Australian

colonies designed to put a practical veto on immigra-tion. The labor's tuation is extremely unsatisfactory, and the unemployed march almost in regiments from one colony to another demanding work. A spiritualistic periodical published in London gravely announces that it has "secured the exclusive collaboration of William Shalespeare, in the spirit world," and the public is warned that alleged cour-

munications from h in appearing in any other paper are apurious.

hard in London to promote the founding of a oved by specialists that a large proportion men, from Newton to Charles Darwin, y in their infancy-in fact, they had been and yet when they had attained to man-, were expable of doing great things."

The Trench Academy is considering a series of spelling recents for the next edition of its dictionary. The following changes were favorably reported on last work. Hyphens are to be abolished in such complaints words, such as "break" and "spicen," are to be a break and golds. Latin plurals like errors are to take an "a" Sour and per a are to become per. "ph" is to become "f," and in plurals " x " is to be changed to "a."

The current belief that the regular search of the vanits under the House of Commons before the begin-ning of each session is a relie of the Guy Fawkes gun-powder plot is declared, on the authority of the Bistorical Manuscripts Commission, to be a popular error. The custom is not so old as the Guy Fawkes incident by nearly a century. In 1650 an anonymous letter was received by a peer disclosing an alleged "second gunpowder plot." A scarch of the vaults was then made, but nothing was found to contrib the letter. The search has been regularly made ever since.

A novel and remarkable point touching the interna-tional ethics in times of war is raised by a demand just made on the Ralian times ment by the Municipal Council of Venues for the restitution of some aix the said pictures, which the Council declares were stolen from Venice during the Napoleonic wars and scattered over Europe. The national sovernment is asked to resort to diplematic measures, and to request foreign powers who now possess the art booty to disgorge demand is also made that vigorous representations be made to Austria, calling on that nation to restore the made to Austria, calling on that nation to restore the 135 pictures which the Emperor Ferdinand carried off to Vienna in 1838. If the powers get to considering this point seriously and conscientiously, it may result in general disarmament.

A TALE OF BOSTON

Examined and Abridged by a Distinguished

From the Saturday Riview,

Anything about Boston is more or less interesting, and so are fashionable people anywhere. How exciting, then, is an athening select social circle of that remarkable city such a description is to be found in a thrilling volume of iletion, bound in white samite, or something of that soct, and cailed." A Realistic Novel of Boston Fashionable Life. The copy before us bears upon the Utile pare the pink and oblique impress of an India rubber stamp, declaring it to be, or to be partly the additionable life. The pink and oblique impress of an India rubber stamp, declaring it to be, or to be partly the additionable life. The pink and oblique impress of an India rubber stamp, declaring it to be, or to be partly the additionable life in the pink and oblique impress of an India rubber stamp, declaring it to be, or to be partly the additionable life in the pink and oblique in the late of the pink and distributed all over the country. and they had taken only three weeks to exhaust and distribute. It is northly on account of this preface that we resent this look from the common door of this fine. For we learn the white? The presentation of embodied ideas, is in accord while their abstract conceptions, also that "the labor of criticism" is "largely confined" to something; that "gills or veroose lucubrations, with a dash of sentiment and an appeal to expletives, are frequently passed for the order of critics," and that the "indigence of such pressons is "Insureduce and Apprehensial to expletives, are frequently passed for the order of critics," and that the "indigence of the order of the world, and who is as universal as she is brilliant in intellect and fascinating in season." She is, moreover, the logical oxide pressor of the world, and who is as universal as she is brilliant in intellect and fascinating in season. She is, moreover, the logical oxide of the world, and the world of the own of the passed of the world of the passed of the

DOWN THE FLOOD ON AN ICE CARE. A Perilous Ride of Sixty Miles on the Ohio Liver to the Darkness.

A large number of sightseers were down at the river yesterday afternoon watching the ice go by. Among the namber was William Hervey, a street paver, who lives at 1.538 Portland avenue. Somebody said, as an unusually large cake of ice floated by, 'I wonder how far a man could travel on one of those cakes before it went to bloces?' Mr. Hervey replied: 'I went to bloces?' Mr. Hervey replied: and he proceeded to tell of a thrilling adventure:

"As near as I can recollect it was about "As near as I can recollect it was about seventeen years ago, during a very hard winter. The Ohio Biver had been frozen selid for about five weeks, and when the thaw commenced was at Aurora. Ind. A man named Blackburne had a barge filled with sait which had broken hoose and drifted down the river in an begorge. He hired mo to go with him in a skill to look for the barge and see if we could land it. He was afraid it would be ground to pieces in the gorge. We left Aurora about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and about 5 o clock in the afternoon and about 5 o clock, after making our way through tolerably clear water, we were suddenly caught in an immense jam of ice. There was one cake which covered a stace of half an acre at least. We puilled our hiths boat up on this big iccherg and prepared to make a night of it as best we could. It was bitterly cold, and, though we were warmly clothed, we had to keep running and jumping about on the ice to keep from freezing. To add to our misery, we had nothing to cat.

"We stowly moved along until about 4

freezing. To add to our misers, we had nothing to eat.

"We stowly moved along until about 4 o'clock in the morning, when our ice cake stuck fast. For three hours we did not move a foot. Then we began to move again and fonted all that day. Mout 6 o'clock in the evening we came so close to the wharfat. Madison, incl. that a rope was thrown to us, and we and our skill were pulled shore.

"I shall never forget that night's ride. We did not I now what minute our cake of leening it split in two under our feet and drop us into the giver. It was a terride thing the way it rocked and cracked all night long. When we were pulled ashore at Madison we were weak from hunger and stiff and sore from our sixty-mile ride."

## Natural Gas Ruless a New Law Question.

A cell at of wine, "such as has not been brought to the haminer within a century," is announced it reads in hughand this week. It mentales over 1.2.7 dozens comprising port of 1811, sherry of 1827, champagne of all brands, liqueurs of every description, some curious black brands, liqueurs of every description, some curious wines.

Several loss in Cornnill, London, in the immediate wines in cornnill, London, in the immediate meighborhood of the flank of England, were sold several days upon at price that averaged £50 per foot, or samething over £1:05.053 an acre. Several neighborhood of the flank of England, were sold several days upon at price that averaged £50 per foot, or samething over £1:05.053 an acre. Several neighborhood of equal size were offered for sale some weeks and, and were bought in by the owner at a price considerably higher.

The experiment of electrically lighting compluses in London has proved so generally satisfactory that all the whicheles of the two leading companies are to be so lighted. Two lamps are used in each complus, the party being supplied from a new storage battery, Partales electric little grain and such that the grain successful use.

Six and few Clay Caupeil to hogh, a stiff or damastics, involving several hundred thousand dollars, against the Northwestern Collo Natural Gas Company, which has it is well in this country adjoining those of the city of Toledo with gas. The resolution is the result of a long study of the legal inspect of the case by Mr. Alexander, who introduced it, and upon his recommendation it was referred to the City Solicitor, who, it is "inderstood, is in favor of vigorously prosecuting the suit. As the took in the clay country and the city and control of the case by Mr. Alexander, who introduced it, and upon his recommendation it was referred to the City Solicitor, who, it is "inderstood, is in favor of vigorously prosecuting the suit. As the took in the clay country of the legal in and upon his recommendation. The resource of the city is the country of the

### Gen. Butler's Famous Yucht. From the Boson Evening Becard.

There is considerable speculation in yachting circles, now that Gen. Butler is dead, as to into whose hands the old America will fall. Mr. Paul Butler told me that he had not the shightest idea as to whether its should retain it or not. Current opinion in Lowell has decided that he will not. His pet hobby is canoing, and it is doubtful if he will change at this day. The General's last cruise, by the way, he told me, was taken with the New York Yaciat Clut, when he saited up with them from Newport, the America giving many of the new yachts at usele. After that he took a number of short tries up along the north shore, but that was his last cruise.

From the Rashington Franks Sar.

Mr. William Dech, the Nebraska Populist who, with the assistance of morphine tried to leave his party. Parrowly escaped success. It is understood that Mr. Dech would not have swallowed the drug had he succeeded in being elected to Congress. A more popular candidate saved him from that fate, and now an active physician, aided and abetted by a stomach nume, has rescued him from a less terrible ending to all earthly ambition. ach pump, has rescued him from the ending to all earthly ambition.

## Steam and Electricity in a Tur of War.

I you the Batter Erening R and At the T. H. E. works in West Lynn a few days age a lacometive was coupled to a man-moth electric motor, and power was applied to them in deposite directions. Actions one gained a particle for quite a while, but finally, with the aid of sand thrown on the track, the locometive came off victorious.

All the Farmarks.

From the Ness York Weekly Winks-Who is that long-haired genius with cotton in his cars? Jinks-Um-a music teacher, probables